

WHY IOWA SHINES.

Hawkeye State Has Given Long Terms to Its Congressmen.

Amos J. Cummings Tells Why Experienced Men at the National Capital Wield Greatest Power in Legislation for Their Constituents.

Washington, Jan. 1.—Term of service is the real source of power in both the senate and the house of representatives. The state or the city making the least change in its congressional representation reaps the advantage in legislation. With rare exceptions, the places on important committees are given to those most experienced in legislation. They ascend in grade, the same as an officer of the army or the navy, in proportion to their years of toil and usefulness. It is unwritten law, rarely disregarded by the speaker in making up his committees. In the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth congresses Maine wielded more influence in legislation than any other state in the union. Owing to their terms of service her senators and representatives dominated the leading committees.

Through the effort of her experienced congressmen and senators millions upon millions had been appropriated for the improvements of the rivers and harbors of the state, and there was hardly a town of any size within its boundary that did not contain a public building erected at the expense of the United States. Kittery navy yard, on her western boundary, revealed in appropriations. Her lumber, granite quarries and her lime and cement were protected by the tariff, and her shipyards supplied with government work and fortified with legislation. She even levied tribute upon the ocean at the expense of her sister states. A law was enacted that prevented the netting of mackerel until the schools reached her coasts, but every effort to protect the menhaden off the Jersey coast failed. Maine fishermen and others netted them by millions for bait and oil. Her sardine factories were protected by heavy duties on the French product, and genuine Finden haddies were driven from the American market to give place to the inferior product dried on her shores.

Of the 45 chickens nestling under the broad wings of the great federal fowl Maine drew the most warmth and sustenance. It was all due to the continuous service of her senators and representatives. Suddenly there came a change. Milliken, Dingley and Boutelle died in harness and Tom Reed went to New York to practice law. Only two years have elapsed since the Fifty-fifth congress expired and Maine has lost the lead. Iowa has usurped her place. The experienced delegation from the Kennebec, Penobscot and Androscoggin has given place to one entirely new. None of its four representatives has spent more than one term in the house. In proportion to its numbers it is probably as sparkling a deputation as any in the house, but it has no longer the touchstone of power—length of service. Its influence in the senate, however, has been so much increased by the re-election of Senators Hale and Frye that it may retain many of the advantages gleaned by the old delegation.

Maine probably drew her inspiration from the city of brotherly love. Philadelphia awoke to the importance of keeping her representatives continuously in congress before the war. She held Samuel J. Randall, Charles O'Neill, William D. Kelley and Alfred Harmer in the house of representatives 28 years. All died in office and all were buried at the expense of the United States. She placed Gen. Harry Bingham in the house over 20 years ago and has kept him here ever since. So vital to the interests of the city was the retention of these congressmen that political affiliations became a secondary consideration. Samuel J. Randall's district was always so apportioned by a republican legislature as to return him to the house despite all political convulsions. He served three terms as speaker and was for years chairman of the committee on appropriations. Kelley, who entered the house a term ahead of Randall, was at one time chairman of the ways and means, and a member of the committee nearly a quarter of a century. For 16 years he was its leading republican, and outranked Maj. William McKinley when the latter was made chairman by the appointment of Speaker Reed. With Randall and Kelley holding such important positions in the house by term of service, it is no wonder that the industrial and commercial interests of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania were so carefully fostered and nourished in all tariff and other upheavals. No city ever fared better in the committee on appropriations. A mint of money was spent in harbor and other improvements. Islands were shoveled out of the Delaware to improve her ship channel, and her great shipyards were fed with government contracts aggregating millions upon millions. One might almost say that the new

United States navy was a product of Philadelphia. Alfred Harmer, one of her congressmen, was a member of the naval committee for 13 years. Unusually rich was the reward reaped by the foresight of her citizens in retaining their delegation. O'Neill was a member of the committees on commerce and appropriations, and Gen. Bingham has been on the committee on post offices and post roads 14 years. For eight years he has held a leading place in the committee on appropriations, and for six years has been in the direct line of succession to Joseph G. Cannon. Philadelphia has furnished successively four fathers of the house. Charles O'Neill succeeded William D. Kelley, Alfred Harmer followed O'Neill and Harry Bingham, Harmer. Rarely did a delegation work more harmoniously than did this from Philadelphia in its long years of public service. There seemed to be no jealousies among them. Each did his level best for the city he represented. If an appropriation for a public building or for League island was sought each member turned to and worked like a beaver. All understood the science of logrolling, and never were they defeated. Their successors are young men who have already acquired places on influential committees and are yearly becoming more useful.

It was term of service that gave the south a preponderating influence in legislation before the war. Indeed, it has retained it since the conflict. In Randall's first term as speaker (the Forty-fourth congress), the south had 33 committee chairmanships and the north 31. In the succeeding congresses up to and including the Fifty-third the south led in committee chairmanships. These figures apparently indicate that the speakers from the south favored their own section at the expense of their northern colleagues. The truth is that the assignments were made, with very few exceptions, in accordance with precedent, those having the longest service having the preference.

Georgia has always recognized the benefits to be derived from long service. James H. Blount was 20 years a member of the house, and served for years as chairman of the committee on the post office and post roads, winding up as chairman of foreign affairs. He also served on the ways and means and on appropriations. To Paramount Blount was Georgia indebted for many legislative tidbits. Nor is the empire state of the south heedless of the lesson learned so many years ago. She is one of the few states that re-elected her entire delegation last year. Her oldest member in legislative experience to-day is Rufus E. Lester, of Savannah. He has served 12 years, and was a favorite presiding officer in committee of the whole when Crisp was speaker. Savannah has reaped her reward for his long service in liberal appropriations for her harbor and public buildings. Leonidas F. Livingston, who has represented the Atlanta district for ten years, is already in line for the chairmanship of the committee on appropriations whenever the democracy regains the house.

Nor is the northwest behind in the procession. Minnesota has evidently taken in the situation. She is the only one of the great western states who has re-elected her entire delegation. With Tawney on ways and means and insular affairs, McCleary on appropriations, aside from the chairmanship of the committee on library, Morris, of the Duluth district, on rivers and harbors; Stevens on military, Morris, of the Duluth district, fairs and chairman of the printing committee, Fletcher on the Mississippi levees and Frank Eddy chairman of mines and mining, it would look as though she had bitten off more than she could chew. At all events she is in a fair way to reap her reward for keeping the most of these gentlemen in the house for the eight years past.

Iowa shines with peculiar brilliancy. The speaker is of course her most resplendent jewel, but there are others of the first water. Gen. Henderson had an experience of 16 years in the house before he aspired to the speakership. Hepburn, of Nicaragua canal fame, has had 14 years in congressional life, and Hull, who ran the military committee so ably during the Spanish and Philippine war, has spent ten years in the national school of legislation. Lacey, the head of the committee on public lands, also has a decade of service, while Robert G. Cousins, the orator par excellence, is credited with eight years. The whole delegation, however, is in line for advancement, and it is more than ever apparent that the scepter of power has passed from the east to the west. Term of service is the main lever in the transfer. Amos J. Cummings.

Husband and Wife Burned to Death. Little Chief, Minn., Jan. 2.—Mr. and Mrs. Milton Gorton were burned to death at their residence, four miles northeast of Little Chief, Tuesday night. There were but three persons in the house, the two old people and the hired man, Frank Addy, who escaped. Mr. Gorton had been an invalid for years.

REPLIES TO CRITICS.

Secretary Long Says Comments on Prize Bounty Are Unjust.

The Sampson-Schley Award Was Made by the Court of Claims and Was Outside the Navy Department's Power.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Secretary Long has addressed to Senator Knute Nelson, of Minnesota, a long letter defending the navy department against what is declared to be unfriendly criticism in connection with the distribution of prize money and bounty.

Touching the claim of Rear Admiral Sampson for bounty at Santiago, the secretary says that the distribution was made under a decree of the court of claims which he cites and from which no appeal was taken. He further points out that, under the prize laws, the commander-in-chief of the fleet is entitled to his "one-twentieth of bounty by virtue of his position as commander-in-chief, whether he is personally present during the engagement or not." Says the secretary: "As commander-in-chief Rear Admiral Sampson would therefore under the law have been entitled to his share of the bounty for the destruction of the Spanish ships at Santiago if he had been on the north shore of Cuba at the time. This was the law, for which the navy department is no wise responsible." On this point, the secretary says that the department itself was the first to realize the inequalities of this law and to make the recommendation which led to its appeal, so that "a rather amusing feature of the attacks made upon the navy department," as the secretary puts it, "is that the administration is blamed more than two years after it had cured the evil."

WOULD REMOVE STUEFER.

Extra Session of Nebraska Legislature May Be Convened to Deal with the State Treasury Matter.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 7.—It develops that the delay of Gov. Savage in starting on his trip to New Orleans was caused by the receipt of a letter from W. G. Sears, speaker of the house in the last legislature, advising him to remove State Treasurer Stuefer. The request of Speaker Sears is based on the alleged irregularities of Treasurer Stuefer in bond purchases which formed the basis of sensational charges and a demand in some quarters for his impeachment. Speaker Sears' letter, it is asserted, suggested in the event the governor did not see fit to remove Stuefer that he call a special session of the legislature to take action. Gov. Savage and the state officers generally stoutly defend Stuefer. No action towards removal will be taken until Gov. Savage's return from the south.

PLACE FOR COL. D. P. DYER.

He Will Succeed Edward Rozier as United States Attorney at St. Louis—Westhus Revenue Collector.

Washington, Jan. 7.—President Roosevelt has notified Representative Bartholdt, of Missouri, that he has decided to appoint Ben. Westhus internal revenue collector of the Eastern district of Missouri to succeed H. C. Grenner, resigned, and Col. D. P. Dyer United States district attorney to succeed Edward Rozier upon the expiration of the latter's term. Mr. Westhus will take the place to which C. F. Wenecker was appointed and from which he withdrew before his appointment was confirmed. The above appointments are considered victories for the anti-Kerens faction in Missouri.

A MILLION-DOLLAR GIFT.

Harold McCormick and Wife, of Chicago, Endow a Medical Institution for Infectious Diseases.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—An endowment of \$1,000,000 has been given by Mr. and Mrs. Harold McCormick to found a medical institution which will be known as the memorial institute for infectious diseases as a tribute to the memory of their little son, John Rockefeller McCormick, who died of scarlet fever a year ago.

INFANT'S RIGHT TO DAMAGES

Court of Appeals Holds That 16-Months-Old Child Can Recover, Though Parents Were Careless.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 7.—The Kansas City court of appeals decided Monday that a child 16 months' old can recover damages for personal injuries received in a railroad accident, although the father and mother, in whose charge it was, were guilty of contributory negligence.

To Stamp Out Blackmail.

New York, Jan. 7.—Mayor Low sent his first message to the board of aldermen yesterday. It was brief, and the only subject treated of was blackmail in the civil administration, in the stamping out of which he said he desired the co-operation of the people of the city.

SUNK HER IN THE RIVER

A Cook on a Steamer Knocked His Female Assistant Senseless and Then Threw Her Overboard.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—A body which had a weight around its neck was taken from the river here yesterday. Louis Thomas, cook of the steamer Oscar, and Robert Riesebeck, who also worked on the boat, were placed under arrest following the discovery. The body was identified as that of Carrie Larson, a girl 22 years of age, whom Thomas is alleged to have secured from an employment agency New Year's day to assist him in the cook's galley. According to Riesebeck, Thomas and the woman quarreled and the latter was knocked unconscious. Riesebeck says the cook compelled him to assist in fastening a weight to the woman and in throwing her overboard.

THE CLAUSE NOT BINDING.

Kansas City Court of Appeals Renders Interesting Opinion Involving Accident Insurance Policy.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 7.—In many accident insurance policies the stipulation is made that in case the insured is injured while hunting or while in any way handling fire arms, the policy is reduced to one-fifth of its face; that is if the policy is for \$5,000, and the insured is killed through the accidental discharge of a firearm the face of the policy is reduced to \$1,000. In an opinion handed down by the Kansas City court of appeals it is held that, under the laws of Missouri, this clause is not binding. It is also held that, even if a person settles for a less amount than the face of the policy, the company is still liable for the difference, face value and the amount settled for.

THE RICHARDSON MURDER.

Stewart Fife, Who Is Wanted at Savannah, Mo., Arrested in North Yakima as a Fugitive from Justice.

St. Joseph, Mo., Jan. 7.—A special to the Gazette-Herald from North Yakima, Wash., says: Stewart Fife was arrested here last night by Constable A. H. Short, charged with being a fugitive from justice. He is wanted at Savannah, Mo., for the murder of Frank W. Richardson, who was shot in his home December 25, 1900.

Against Holding Large Tracts of Land.

Guthrie, Ok., Jan. 7.—The majority of the Cherokee Indians have joyously received the news that their bill has been introduced into congress to compel the rich members of the tribe to relinquish the large tracts of land. Some of them are holding from 5,000 to 10,000 acres each, on which they pasture large herds of cattle. But the intent is to confine them to 160 acres each on an equality with all Cherokees.

Contract Marriages Legalized.

New York, Jan. 7.—The first contract marriage under the new Weeks law was filed yesterday with the city clerk. This contract certificate is an agreement between a man and a woman to live together as man and wife. Under the law any contract signed by the contracting parties, witnessed by a commissioner of deeds and filed with the city clerk within a month thereof, legalizes the marriage and the progeny also.

A Love Affair Caused Her Suicide.

Coffeyville, Kan., Jan. 7.—Miss Mattie Anderson, the 19-year-old daughter of M. N. Anderson, of this city, took carbolic acid Sunday evening with suicidal intent and died at night. Miss Anderson's death is the result of an unhappy love affair. Her parents objected to her going with the young man of her choice because they did not consider him suitable.

Coburn Tells About Hereford Cattle.

Topeka, Kan., Jan. 7.—"Hereford Cattle" is the title of Secretary F. D. Coburn's quarterly, which made its appearance yesterday. It is devoted to an exposition of the merits and history of Hereford cattle as beef makers and their adaptability as such, estimated by those who know them best.

Woolley Sees Temperance Growth.

Chicago, Jan. 7.—John G. Woolley, the prohibition leader, who has just returned from a seven months' trip around the globe, says the world is advancing toward temperance. His trip was taken for the purpose of studying the conditions of the liquor traffic in foreign lands.

No Flirting on the Street Wanted.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 7.—Among the bills introduced in the lower house of the legislature yesterday was one by Assemblyman William S. Bennett, of New York, making it a misdemeanor to flirt on a public thoroughfare.

The Deweys Go South.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Admiral and Mrs. Dewey left here Monday for Palm Beach, Fla. The length of their stay there is indefinite, as the trip is undertaken for the benefit of Mrs. Dewey's health.

TOUCH OF REAL WAR

Gen. Bell Driving Filipinos in Batangas Like Sheep.

He Tells His Critics It Is the Only Way to Permanent Peace—Rebels in Samar Hide in Mountains and Are Hard to Get.

Manila, Jan. 6.—Gen. J. Franklin Bell is conducting a vigorous campaign in Batangas province. Every available soldier is in the field. The columns under the command of Col. Wint and Dougherty are doing excellent work and driving the Filipinos in all directions. A number of the latter are fleeing to Tayabas province, where the native constabulary are rendering valuable assistance in capturing men and rifles.

The advocates of peace at Manila deprecate the stern measures employed by Gen. Bell. In reply Gen. Bell says that these peace advocates have had numerous opportunities to use their influence, as they have been given passes through the American lines almost for the asking, and that it has been afterwards proved that they often only went through the lines for the purpose of assisting the insurrection. Gen. Bell says that the best peace method now is a rigorous warfare until the insurrection is completely subdued.

The arrest of members of the wealthy Lopez family and the confiscation of their steamers and rice, as well as the arrest of three members of the religious corporations, who were known to be instigators of the insurrection, has had an excellent effect upon the natives.

Conditions in the island of Samar are still unsatisfactory, owing to the difficulty of finding the insurgents. The civil authorities say that the island of Leyte is now perfectly peaceful. On the other hand the military authorities consider Leyte to be dangerous on account of its proximity to Samar, if for no other reason. Last Friday Maj. Albert L. Meyer, of the Eleventh infantry, captured quite an extensive arsenal and plant for the making of cartridges at Ormoc, on the northwest coast of Leyte. Maj. Meyer also captured another powder factory, large quantities of ammunition, four cannon and several rifles.

A PRO-BOER MEETING.

William J. Bryan and Mayor Johnson Address a Gathering at Cleveland, O.—A Resolution Passed.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 6.—Four thousand people attended a pro-Boer meeting in Gray's armory yesterday afternoon. There was enthusiastic applause for every expression of sympathy and encouragement for the struggling Boers. An unexpected event in the meeting was the appearance of Hon. W. J. Bryan, who is in this city for the day as the guest of Mayor Johnson. When the committee in charge of the meeting learned that the democratic leader was in the city an invitation was sent to him and the mayor to attend and address the gathering. The meeting continued for four hours, the principal address being by Hon. John J. Lentz.

A resolution was passed and will be sent to the president of the United States. He is asked to continue the efforts of his predecessor to bring to an end the horrors of concentration camps and a warfare which, by "its unexampled ferocity and enormous cost of life and treasure, has astounded the civilized world."

EVEN SPLIT IN OHIO.

Senator Hanna's Men Secured the House Officers and Friends of Senator Foraker Won in the Upper Branch.

Columbus, O., Jan. 6.—The fight between the Hanna and Foraker forces in the Ohio legislative caucus Saturday evening resulted in an even split. The Hanna men secured control of the house and the Foraker men of the senate. Some of the nominations for officials of the senate were made without opposition, but there was "a fight to a finish" for those of the house, especially for the speakership.

Wants to Crush the Plaster Trust.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 6.—Sam Lazarus, the St. Louis millionaire capitalist, ranchman, turfman and railway builder, arrived here Saturday night to open headquarters to fight the plaster trust recently organized by Kansas capitalists. Mr. Lazarus owns six plaster and cement mills and will attempt to crush the United States Plaster company, a concern controlling 23 plants.

Order to Confederate Veterans.

New Orleans, Jan. 6.—Gen. J. B. Gordon, commanding the United Confederate Veterans' association, has issued a general order announcing that the next reunion of the veterans will be held at Dallas, Tex., April 22 to 25. The order states that the association numbers 1,300 camps and urges confederate veterans to form camps and join the association.